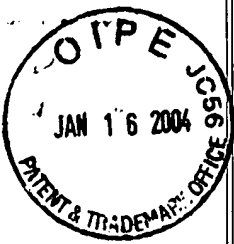


REMARKS

In the last Office Action, restriction was required between claims 1-3 drawn to a thermal head, and claims 4-2 drawn to a process of making a thermal head. In the event applicants elected the process of making a thermal head, further restriction was required between claims 4-5 drawn to forming pairs of electrodes, claims 6-7 drawn to forming pairs of heaters, and claims 8-12 drawn to forming a protective sealing or incapsulation element. Applicants were required to elect one of the inventions for further prosecution.

In response to the restriction requirement, applicants provisionally elect the invention of Group II-B drawn to a method of manufacturing thermal heads by forming pairs of heaters and submit that claims 6-7 are readable on the elected invention. Non-elected claims 4-5 and 8-12 have been retained in the application pending possible withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

For clarification, applicants respectfully point out that claims 1-3 were canceled in the transmittal letter which accompanied the filing of this application, which is a division of parent application Serial No. 08/944,662. Thus only claims 4-12 are currently pending in the application.



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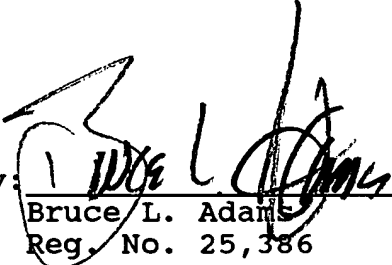
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In light of the foregoing, early and favorable
action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Donna Riccardulli

Name


Signature

January 13, 2004

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